

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES INSURANCE
COMPANY, et al.

Docket No. 15-CV-07236

Plaintiffs

- against -

ANSWER

BRUCE JACOBSON, D.C., et al.,

Defendants

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Defendants Bruce Jacobsen, D.C., BMJ Chiropractic, P.C., NJ Pain Treatment, P.C., Jacobsen Chiropractic, P.C., Dr. Bruce Jacobsen DC, P.C., and NJ Neuro & Pain, P.C., answer the Plaintiffs' Complaint as follows;

1. Deny each and every allegation of wrongdoing against or involving Bruce Jacobsen, D.C., BMJ Chiropractic, P.C., NJ Pain Treatment, P.C., Jacobsen Chiropractic, P.C., Dr. Bruce Jacobsen DC, P.C., and NJ Neuro & Pain, P.C. in paragraphs designated 1-8, 11, 16, 17, 19, 23, 27-47, 97-146, 150-76, 180, 181, 184-86, 190-93, 195, 197-204, 206-223, 226-33, 246-65, 267-81, 283-323, 332-60, 364-74, 385-91, 393-404, 408-13, 423-26, 428-436, 438-43, 445-50, 452-57, 459-67, 469-73, 475-80, 482-87, 489-94, 496-504, 506-10, 512-17, 519-24, 526-31, 533-41, 543-47, 549-54, 556-61, 563-68, 570-78, 580-84, 586-91, 593-98, 600-05, 607-15, 617-21, 623-28, 630-35, 637-42, 644-52, 654-58, 660-69, 671-75, 677-78, and 680-82. Defendants named herein also deny all allegations in the paragraphs labeled A through II at the end of the Complaint.

2. Deny knowledge and information sufficient as to form a belief as to the allegations contained in paragraphs designated 9, 12, 177-79, 182, 187-89, 196, 224, 225, 324-31, 414, 421, and 422.

3. Deny any knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to each and every allegation contained in the paragraphs designated as 13, 18, 20, 25, 26, 48-51, 53-96, 183, 194, 205, 240-45, 375-84, 392, 405, and 406, as said allegations are conclusions of law, and such questions are respectfully referred to the Court.

4. Reiterate respective responses set forth herein as to the allegations contained by incorporation in paragraphs designated as 427, 437, 444, 451, 458, 468, 474, 481, 488, 495, 505, 511, 518, 525, 532, 542, 548, 555, 562, 569, 579, 585, 592, 599, 606, 616, 622, 629, 636, 643, 653, 659, 670, 676, and 679.

5. Admit the facts averred by Plaintiffs, while denying any allegations of fraud, deception, money laundering, submission of allegedly fraudulent claims to any Plaintiff, or any other illegal act or wrongdoing, expressed or implied, in the paragraphs designated as 10, 15, 21, 22, 24, 52, 147-49, 234-39, 266, 282, 361-63, and 407.

Furthermore, Answering Defendants asserts the following **DEFENSES**:

- One.** Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the applicable statute of limitations.
- Two.** Plaintiffs failed to join parties required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 19.
- Three.** Plaintiffs' causes of action are barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrine of *res judicata*, claim preclusion.
- Four.** Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in part, by the doctrine of collateral estoppel, issue preclusion.
- Five.** Plaintiffs' recovery is barred, in whole or in part, by their failure to mitigate damages.
- Six.** Plaintiffs' alleged losses, liabilities, or other expenses, if any, were not directly or proximately caused by the conduct of the Defendants as alleged or otherwise.
- Seven.** Plaintiffs' injury, if any, in whole or in part, was the result of the intervening or superseding conduct of third parties.
- Eight.** Plaintiffs have failed to disclose a concrete financial loss, and thus Plaintiffs' injury, if any, is not compensable. Plaintiffs' recovery of damages is barred in whole or in part because Plaintiffs' alleged damages are speculative.
- Nine.** Plaintiffs' damages were caused, in whole or in part, by Plaintiffs' own negligence and/or the negligence of a third party.
- Ten.** Plaintiffs waived any and all claims they might have against Defendant.
- Eleven.** Plaintiffs' recovery is barred, in whole or in part, by the defense of release.

- Twelve.** Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, because Plaintiffs would be unjustly enriched if they were allowed to recover the damages alleged in the Complaint.
- Thirteen.** Defendants acted at all relevant times in reliance upon the advice of counsel.
- Fourteen.** Defendants did not act with the requisite scienter or mens reas for actionable fraud.
- Fifteen.** Defendants did not act with the requisite scienter or mens rea for mail fraud.
- Sixteen.** Plaintiff did not rely on the statements and/or conduct of Defendant, and if it did, such reliance was not justifiable. And if the reliance was justifiable, it was not to the detriment of Plaintiffs.
- Seventeen.** Any and all actions taken by Defendants with respect to any of the matters alleged in the Amended Complaint were taken in good faith and in accordance with established industry practice.
- Eighteen.** Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the equitable doctrines of laches.
- Nineteen.** Plaintiffs' remedies are limited to those provided by Article 51 of the New York State Insurance Law.
- Twenty.** The United States Court for the Eastern District of New York lacks jurisdiction over Plaintiffs' claims.
- Twenty-one.** Plaintiffs' claims are subject to arbitration pursuant to No-Fault law and the Federal Arbitration Act.
- Twenty-two.** Plaintiffs' claims, in whole or in part, are barred by the doctrine of arbitration and award.
- Twenty-three.** Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the doctrine of accord and satisfaction.
- Twenty-four.** Plaintiffs fail to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.
- Twenty-five.** To the extent that Plaintiffs' claims are seeking review from state court judgments/arbitrations, there is no federal jurisdiction pursuant to the Rooker Feldman doctrine.

6. Defendants answering herein also incorporate by reference, reiterate, and preserve any and all defenses put forth by co-Defendants in their respective Answers.

7. Defendants answering herein have not knowingly or voluntarily waived any applicable defenses, affirmative or otherwise, and reserves the right to assert and rely upon additional defenses as such arise, or become available or apparent as discovery progresses, during the course of this litigation.

8. Defendants answering herein assert that they currently lack any knowledge of any fraudulent or otherwise unlawful acts committed by any associate, employee, patient or agent of any Defendant. In the event such acts are discovered by Answering Defendants, Defendants Answering herein reserve their right to assert claims against such parties to indemnify Answering Defendants against such parties' unlawful or fraudulent actions, as such arise, or become available or apparent as Discovery progresses, during the course of this litigation.

9. Defendants herein further deny each and every allegation not heretofore controverted, and demand strict proof thereof, including any paragraphs not designated above and any unnumbered paragraphs in the Complaint containing allegations against Defendants herein.

Dated: December 27, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

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